

AAW Chapter Bulletin - February 2016

*This email is being sent to all chapter officers.
The contents should be shared with club members as appropriate.*

February 2, 2016

Greetings!:

In this Bulletin:

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Chapter Insurance for 2016

The AAW continues to offer three insurance plans for chapters. The AAW **Group Plan** insures chapters under the AAW commercial general liability policy. Coverage is for an annual period and the policy will renew without any changes in policy terms or cost on **February 15, 2016**. The contribution requested from chapters to be included in the Group Plan will remain unchanged at \$95 annually. All AAW chapters already enrolled in the Group Plan during 2015 will automatically be renewed for 2016 unless they indicate they want to opt out. Other chapters may still opt in after this date by notifying the AAW, but the \$95 contribution toward the premium is not prorated at any point during the year. We ask that all chapters complete the annual [chapter officer update form available on the AAW website by clicking here](#). Here you will also find all resources related to chapter insurance, including comparisons among the three plans and the AAW general liability insurance fact sheet. If you have questions about the policy options available to you from AAW, please contact me by [email](#) or phone at 877-595-9094 (toll free).

If your chapter participates in the **Private Plan**, offered separately through the Hartford Insurance Company, or the **Canadian Plan**, those policies will expire on the anniversary date of when your coverage in the policy was originally bound, or most recently renewed.

We are pleased to report that 2015 saw no claims made against the AAW general liability insurance policy. We attribute this to the extreme care taken by the leadership in our chapters and the diligence in following safe turning practices. All of the attention given to the value of insuring our activities and managing risks sometimes overshadows what is truly most important - preventing harm to individuals and keeping people safe.

AAW Services, Publications, and Positioning Initiative

After more than a year of planning that included extensive consultations with chapter officers, members, and numerous constituencies, the AAW Board was presented last week with a plan for a five-year strategic agenda. This agenda is far-reaching and built upon a foundation of nine strategic thrusts. It will touch all of our services, publications, and other resources to position AAW in the right spot amidst what has become a competitive market to deliver what woodturners want and need. This initiative cannot proceed with any measure of success if viewed as only a top-down program delivered by AAW. We will take every available measure to involve all chapters as we introduce new woodturning education publications and resources, and work together to improve the experiences of all woodturners. We are enhancing and developing the tools and resources to help turners accomplish current ambitions, recognize opportunities, and pursue aspirations. Our publications, services, and other products will allow people to grow, connect, explore, and thrive in the areas of woodturning that are uniquely important to them.



LEARN. CREATE. CONNECT.

A membership with the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) is much more than just a subscription to the *American Woodturner* journal. AAW is the world's leading resource for woodturning information, inspiration, and education. AAW members have access to a wide range of services, including publications, online resources, and more. AAW is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning as an art, science, and industry. AAW provides a wide range of services, including publications, online resources, and more. AAW is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning as an art, science, and industry. AAW provides a wide range of services, including publications, online resources, and more.

TAP INTO THE WORLD OF WOODTURNING!

BECOME AN AAW MEMBER TODAY.

IT'S EASY! ONLINE PHONE

Online: Sign up for a new membership online at woodturner.org

Phone: Call us at 800-468-6834 or 877-589-6834 (toll-free)

GUIDE TO MEMBER SERVICES & PUBLICATIONS

Keep and use this handy index to member services and publications

A membership with the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) is much more than just a subscription to the *American Woodturner* journal.

PUBLICATIONS INCLUDED WITH MEMBERSHIP

American Woodturner journal, 12 issues annually, with projects, techniques, and more. New for 2016, the AAW has introduced a new online resource: the *American Woodturner* website. The website is a comprehensive resource for woodturners, providing a wide range of information, including articles, projects, and more. The website is a comprehensive resource for woodturners, providing a wide range of information, including articles, projects, and more.

Special offers

Get it first! New for 2016, the AAW has introduced a new online resource: the *American Woodturner* website. The website is a comprehensive resource for woodturners, providing a wide range of information, including articles, projects, and more. The website is a comprehensive resource for woodturners, providing a wide range of information, including articles, projects, and more.

Setting Up Your Workshop by Joseph B. Parnis. Hardcover, 112 pages, \$24.95. \$19.95 for members.

Sharpening Woodturning Tools by David R. Smith. Hardcover, 112 pages, \$24.95. \$19.95 for members.

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Here are a few of the positive results you'll see in the first year of AAW's plan:

- Improved communication tools that will make it easier for chapter officers to promote the full range of benefits and services available to woodturners through a membership in AAW. [Our baseline view of current offerings is available on this updated two-page flyer.](#) We encourage all chapters to distribute this to your members and make it widely available on your website, newsletters, and in email blasts to members.
- An integrated learning curriculum to better meet the needs of beginning turners and chapters.
- A more user-friendly AAW website, which makes locating publications and services easy.
- An easy-to-use search function for AAW website content that supports individual learning through learning modules, and also offers uncomplicated access to 30 years of articles, projects, and tips contained in the *American Woodturner* journal website library.
- Guidelines and tools to support successful demonstrations, including good video techniques, high-quality demonstration handouts, and more.
- New recruitment programs to increase awareness of woodturning and grow the AAW membership.

The next steps to begin to organize the implementation of work plans are underway. The implementation will be supported by comprehensive communications plans to make the case behind the need for this five-year initiative and to keep everyone informed about the progress along the way.

2016 AAW EOG Awards

We would like to acknowledge all of our chapters who presented Educational Opportunity Grant proposals. Demand for AAW's longstanding EOG program was high. Award decisions have been made and all those who submitted grant proposals will be notified about their status in February. In total, AAW will issue nearly \$31k in grant awards in 2016.

AAW 30th Anniversary Symposium - Atlanta

AAW's 30th Annual International Symposium will be held at the Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart in downtown Atlanta, June 9-12, 2016. The Atlanta Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel, which is connected to the convention center, is offering discounted AAW-only rates and will serve as the host hotel. Hotel registrations have been open since early December. Symposium registration activity through January has proceeded at a healthy pace.



Please consider donating your time to become a symposium volunteer. Volunteer work can be a great way to give back and get acquainted with others. Many of the opportunities don't even require turning skills and are perfect for an adult guest or spouse. [Sign up to volunteer.](#)

Videographer applications are still open. Applicants should have experience with video camera equipment, possess technical competence, and have knowledge of lighting, shooting angle, placement of microphone, etc. [Learn more and apply by February 28](#) (extended from January 15).

AAW has made the decision to discontinue the annual AAW **Chapter Collaborative Challenge** (CCC) program. Interest and demand among chapters to create collaborative projects for display during the AAW symposium has been in decline over the past four years. Future opportunities to engage chapters as part of the symposium experience will continue to be sought. We encourage you to let us know your ideas for alternative activities.



We encourage all chapters to make it convenient for your members to see what's planned for Atlanta. [Visit the AAW Atlanta Symposium webpage for all information about the event.](#) To make it convenient for you to re-post links to the symposium webpage, please feel free to [download the following banner for use on your websites, newsletters, and email blasts.](#) If you would like to discuss creating custom graphics, [please contact Kim Rymer.](#)

Atlanta Beads of Courage Exhibit

A grassroots campaign by many of our southeast regional chapters has grown into a collaborative project to create a large exhibit of member contributions to the Beads of Courage organization at the Atlanta symposium. Beads of Courage is a nonprofit organization that provides innovative, arts-in-medicine supportive care programs for children coping with serious illness, their families, and health care providers. The Beads of Courage program is designed to support and strengthen children and families coping with serious illness.



The Beads of Courage tradition is fast-building among woodturners who turn and donate handcrafted bowls, containers, and lidded boxes to Beads of Courage to hold children's beads. Beads of Courage then distributes the woodturned items to children throughout their affiliated network of hospitals and clinics.

Beads of Courage exhibits have been on display at the past several AAW symposia and at a number of regional symposia, and many AAW chapters sponsor Beads of Courage events.

Hearing stories about the treatment experiences of critically ill children is heart-wrenching. But we are also hearing the positive and engaging accounts from the families whose children have received these contributions.

To ensure that all work donated to Beads of Courage meets essential, carefully developed standards, [Beads of Courage has published guidelines](#) for the following reasons:

- To ensure patient safety;
- To show gratitude to those who donate, as well as to track in-kind donations;
- To avoid burdening the hospitals which have storage limitations.

[To learn more about the AAW Beads of Courage exhibit at the Atlanta symposium, please visit the AAW website.](#)

February Issue of American Woodturner Journal

The February issue of the journal will begin arriving this week. This issue features a heavy emphasis on basic instructional articles.

One article in particular, [Ten Principles of Clean Cutting: a Woodturner's Checklist](#), by Kip Christensen, is available as a special "preview offering" for all chapter members who may, or may not, be AAW members. This resource offers the basic concepts underlying everything woodturners do. Note on the first page, the article directs readers to AAW's online resources (in this case, Sharpening Resources). [Please help us to reach all woodturners and freely share this article with everyone in your chapter.](#)

Yours respectfully,



Phil

P.S. Please Update Chapter Profiles: Our chapter and chapter officer listings are only as accurate as the information supplied by you. [Please submit chapter updates \(officer changes, number of members, meeting dates/times, meeting locations, insurance coverage, etc.\) using our online form.](#)



